

CORIAN® ENDURA™ TRANSPORTATION AND INSTALLATION

Introduction

This fabrication bulletin addresses the basic support principles for horizontal countertops manufactured with Corian® Endura™ high performance porcelain.

Overview

The support structure is a key element in successful horizontal Corian® Endura™ installations. The structural support should provide level, rigid support. Corian® Endura™ is very rigid and improper support may lead to product failure. Often the support structure is not provided by the fabricator/installer, but it is the responsibility of the fabricator/installer to ensure that proper structural support is provided before installing the horizontal Corian® Endura™ surface.

A. Clean and Protect Surface

Make sure the slab is completely clean before packaging. Dust from fabrication is abrasive and could mar the finish if rubbed against the surface during transportation.

Protective film may be applied to the surface for additional protection.

B. Packaging

Edges, with the exception of edges for field seams, should all have a radius or bevel. All edges must be protected for shipping, but square edges for field seams warrant special care as square edges can chip easily.

Figure B-1: Top with protective film and protected edges



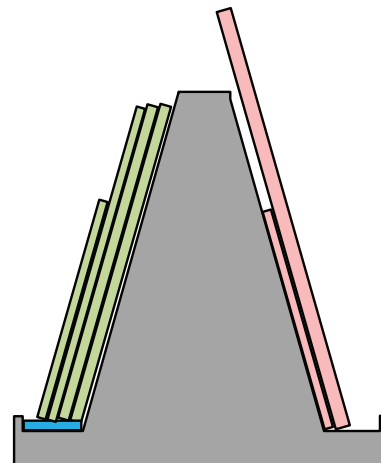
Product stored and shipped on A-frames should be smaller than the A-frame. This protects the slab from impact and importantly, strapping will go up over the A-Frame. Strapping should never wrap around the top of a slab. The strapping should be compressing the slab flat against the A-frame, not compressing it down. When shipping 6 mm slabs, the A-frame should provide full support larger than the slab. If A-frame doesn't provide full support a sheet of plywood may be placed on the A-frame to provide full support.

Figure B-2: A-frame should be larger than slab



The A-frame should not have slabs in direct contact with metal. A wood or rubber base will protect the edges. The slabs should be smaller than the A-frame with smaller pieces towards the front. Slabs should not be higher than the A-frame and larger pieces should not be placed on top of smaller pieces.

Figure B-3: Left side -Slabs on protective base, larger towards back, A-frame larger than slabs. Right - No protection at base, slab larger than A-frame and over smaller slab.



Crates used for shipping should be rigid with protective padding, particularly at edges to protect from impact. The crate should be assembled so that it can be opened without prying with a crowbar (e.g. screws instead of nails.).

C. Support Structure Inspection

It is important to inspect the support structure prior to installation. It must be flat, level, meet span guidelines and be structurally sound. Any debris must be removed. Failure to meet these guidelines may cause stress on the surface and potential failure. Structural requirements are provided in *Corian® Endura Support* (K-30201).

Figure C-1: Improper Support (No direct support)

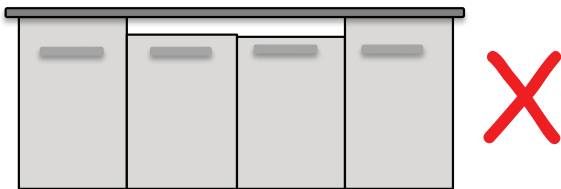


Figure C-2: Proper Support



D. Installation

Inspect the route from the vehicle to the installation site and ensure a clear path. The top should be carried vertically at all times. Cutouts should be supported with reinforcement.

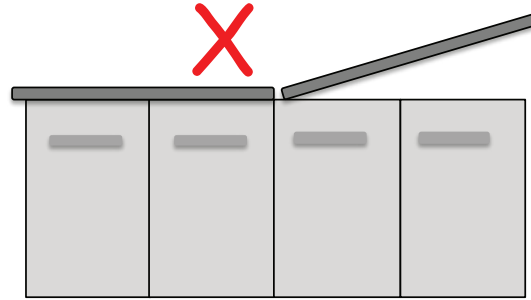
If installing directly on cabinet structure 100% silicone adhesive should be applied as a uniform bead along the entire perimeter. This helps provide uniform support.

If applying over tile substrate, an adhesive that meets ANSI A118.15HE or ISO 13007 C2TE S1 should be used. The adhesive is applied with a 3-mm tile trowel on the slab in a single direction. A 10-mm V-notch trowel is used to apply the adhesive on the substrate in a single direction matching that of the slab.

Use caution placing the slab on the substrate, particularly when rotating from vertical to horizontal. Do not flex or drop the top.

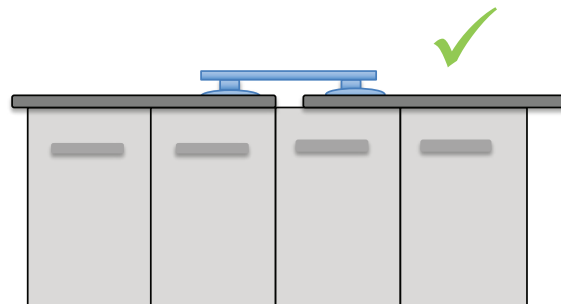
When bringing two slabs together for a field seam, do not lift and bring second slab together at an angle. Bringing slabs together in this manner may chip the edges.

Figure C-3: Do not bring slabs together at angle



Slabs should be brought together with vacuum seam alignment tools. This brings slabs together in a controlled manner that avoids chipping and creates a high-quality seam.

Figure C-4: Use vacuum seam alignment tool



E. Seam Adhesives

Corian® Joint Adhesive may be used for rigid seams and is covered by the Residential Warranty for residential indoor applications. Adhesives designed for porcelain countertops may also be used for rigid seams, but performance is not covered by the Residential Warranty. Where flexible “soft” seams are required to accommodate movement use 100% silicone adhesive. The slab edge should be beveled for a flexible seam.

F. Onsite Storage

Exercise caution if shipping or delivering to a site if installation is not performed on delivery. Staging material on site brings the risk of damage by a third party.

G. Onsite Fabrication

All porcelain cutting operations should be done in a fabrication site where possible. If onsite cutting operations are required proper crystalline silica dust management safety techniques must be followed and it is preferable that cutting is done outdoors to eliminate the risk of generating crystalline silica dust at the customer location.

H. Referenced Document

Corian® Endura™ Support (K-30201)

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